

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/708,617 Confirmation No. 2616  
Inventor : Shannon G. PARSONS  
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TC/AU : 3632  
Examiner : KING, Anita M.  
  
Docket No. : 1007.002  
Customer No. : 36790

July 25, 2006

Via EFS-Web

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE**

In follow-up to the Amendment filed July 24th in response to the Office Action of March 24th, Applicant submits this supplemental response to address an objection which was raised in the Office Action but which was inadvertently missed by Applicant in the Amendment.

Specifically, objection was set forth to FIG. 12 as not including an indication that the illustration represents prior art to the invention of the present application. The Office Action suggested amendment of FIG. 12 to include the legend “PRIOR ART.” Applicant responds that the inventor is unaware whether that which is illustrated in FIG. 12 is prior art under the Patent Act and, therefore, such legend specifically was not included in FIG. 12 when the application was originally filed. Indeed, the invention of the present application may predate that which is illustrated in FIG. 12. Applicant is only aware that FIG. 12 illustrates a commercial product that

was available at the time of filing of the present application. Applicant therefore submits that it would be improper to require any admission by Applicant that FIG. 12 illustrates prior art to the invention of the present application, and Applicant respectfully requests that objection to FIG. 12 set forth in the Office Action of March 24th be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,  
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